

Serial number: 10/748,114
First Applicant: Carlos Vonderwalde
Examiner: Pavitra Kotini
Response to Office Action dated February 27, 2007
Date of Response: May 29, 2007

Filing date: December 29, 2003
Attorney Docket: 28779
Group Art Unit: 3731

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified patent application in view of the following amendments and remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-81 are in this application. Claims 47-50, 54-62, 66-73, 75 and 76 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102. Claims 51-53 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103. Claim 74 has been objected to.

By this amendment, Claim 66 has been amended to include the recitations of now canceled Claims 71, 72, 73 and 74. No new matter has been added. Claims 47-62 have been canceled. Claims 66-70, 75 and 76 appear in the case.

Amendments to the Claims

Applicant has canceled claims 47-62. Applicant has amended claim 66 by including the limitations of claim 74, dependent from claim 73, dependent from claim 72, dependent from claim 71 dependent from claim 66. Consequently, claims 71-74 has been canceled.

Applicant reserves the right to claim the subject matter claimed in canceled claims in continuing applications.

The claims before the Examiner relate to a stent assembly comprising: a. an expandable tubular stent body including a first stent end and a second stent end; b. a substantially tubular stent cover including a first cover end and a second cover end in contact with a surface of the stent body; c. bendable cover connectors disposed at the periphery of the first stent end and folded over the first cover end e. a first ring-shaped wall section defining the first stent end, wherein part of an end thereof is a cover

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connector folded over the first cover end; and f. a second ring-shaped wall section defining the second stent end, wherein part of an end thereof is a cover connector folded over the second cover end, wherein the first ring-shaped wall section is substantially a bent wire loop; wherein the wire loop is bent in an undulate fashion so that the first ring-shaped wall section is substantially cylindrical; and wherein the cover connectors folded over the first cover end are maxima of undulations of the wire loop.

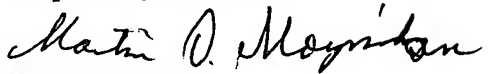
Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner has objected to claim 74 as being dependent on rejected base claim 66 through intervening claims 71, 72 and 73, but has stated that the subject matter of claim 74 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

While traversing all rejections in this application, Applicant, in the interest of obtaining a prompt allowance, has canceled all the rejected claims and has amended claim 66 to include all the limitations of claim 74, rendering claim 66 allowable.

Applicant respectfully urges that claims 66-70 and 75-76 are in allowable condition, and respectfully requests that an early Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully Submitted,


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